

**NEW ABSTRACT:**

Please find the following new abstract:

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A method and a system for monitoring the functional capability of a particle detector connected downstream, in the flow direction, of a particle filter, in which particles occurring upon the regeneration of the particle filter, in particular ions, are detected by the particle  
5 detector and the resultant measurement finding are compared with an expected finding. The measurement and evaluation are effected in a control and evaluation unit. The invention enables monitoring of the functional capability of a particle detector that does not interrupt normal operation and thus increases the reliability of the entire system.